

REMARKS

By this amendment, applicants have amended paragraphs 0038 and 0046 of the substitute specification to correct typographical errors.

Claims 1 - 27 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,353,313 to Panagin. Applicants traverse this rejection and request reconsideration thereof.

The present invention relates to a manufacturing method of a structural body, to a structural body, and to a car body of a railway vehicle. Claims 1 - 4, 6, 7, 10 - 13, 15, 16, 19 - 22, 24 and 25 involve the use of first and second plates or an extruded frame member and a second plate in which the first plate or the extruded frame member has a recessed portion and the second plate has a raised portion protruding therefrom. As set forth in these claims, the raised portion is inserted in and abutted to the recessed portion and the respective abutted portions welded. As set forth in claims 5 - 9, 14 - 18 and 23 - 27, the first plate or extruded frame member comprises plural ribs along an extrusion direction. These features are neither disclosed nor suggested by Panagin.

While the Examiner alleges the Panagin patent to disclose a recessed portion, the Examiner does not provide applicants with a reference numeral for the element of Panagin which the Examiner deems to be the equivalent of the recessed portion of the present invention. Presumably, the Examiner is referring to openings 30a or 32a or to the two half openings which eventually make up the central opening 34 shown in Figure 7 of Panagin. However, if the Examiner equates these openings to be the recessed portion of the present invention, it is not clear where the raised portion presently claimed would be found in Panagin. Claims 1 - 4, 6, 7, 10 - 13, 15, 16, 19 -

22, 24 and 25 require that the raised portion be inserted in and abutted to the recessed portion. At least this feature of the present invention is neither disclosed nor suggested by Panagin.

As to claims 5 - 9, 14 - 18 and 23 - 27, the Examiner equates the sheet-metal frame part 30 of Panagin to the first plate of the present invention. However, claims 5 - 9, 14 - 18 and 23 - 27 require the plate or extruded frame member to comprise plural ribs along an extrusion direction. The sheet-metal frame part 30 of Panagin does not appear to have plural ribs along an extrusion direction. Accordingly, the Panagin patent does not disclose and would not have suggested at least this feature of the presently claimed invention.

For the foregoing reasons, the Panagin patent does not anticipate the presently claimed invention.

Applicants note the Examiner has cited a number of documents as being pertinent to applicants' disclosure. However, since these documents were not applied in rejecting claims formerly in the application, further discussion of these documents is deemed unnecessary.

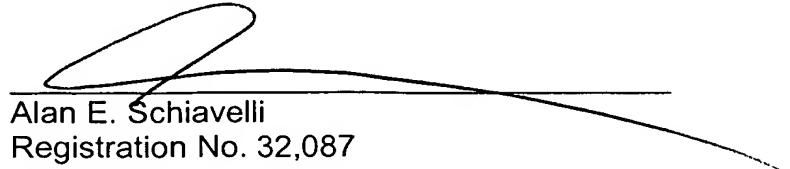
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now in the application are requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry,

Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 503.40902X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Alan E. Schiavelli
Registration No. 32,087

AES/jla
(703) 312-6600